

I am an amateur extra class radio operator. From what I understand, the planned deployment of broadband services over power lines is going to raise the "noise floor" of the HF spectrum considerably. This will not only cause problems for routine amateur communications around the world, but also for emergency response efforts. I would suspect that other users of the so-called "HF" spectrum, from short-wave listeners to government and private entrises will experience similar problems. Low power ham operators know that it doesn't take much power or antenna to spread a signal not only from one end of the country to another, but also around the world. For example, I use a small (5 watt) transceiver with a 6 foot antenna to contact hams here in Minnesota from my daughter's home in San Francisco! So PLEASE do NOT approve deployment of broadband over power lines. Power lines make GREAT antennas! We already experience considerable noise/interference from power lines as they are currently configured. I handled a few messages from the 9/11 emergency, one from a gentleman from New York City who was in eastern France at the time and was trying to make contact with his father. With the interference contemplated from BPL, that would not have been possible!

Additionally, I have not seen anything which shows that the "business plan" will work! There are other choices besides BPL to provide for additional "competition" in broadband services.

Thanks for considering these comments.

73,
Ray
KG0DK